

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the above application.

The Office Action dated February 14, 2007, has been received and carefully reviewed. Each issue raised in that Office Action is addressed below, and reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-15 is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Russell. By the above amendment, claim 1 has been revised to recite a pen input/display device comprising, inter alia, an input pen enabling a pen input on a display panel, the input pen including sequence input means enabling inputs of a series of pen pressure levels in an order of frequency of use and wherein a pen pressure information infrared transmission control means controls an infrared transmission means to change an infrared signal in accordance with frequency of use of individual pen pressure levels as sorted through the sequence input means. As discussed at page 23, line 17 through page 25, line 18, of the specification, this arrangement allows a user to determine the signal that will be output for each of several different pressure levels. It is respectfully submitted that this feature is not shown or suggested by Russell or the other art of record, and claim 1 as amended is submitted to be allowable over the art of record for at least this reason.

Claims 2 and 4-8 depend from claim 1 and are submitted to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Russell. By the above amendment, claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form, but the scope of the claim has not changed. Claim 3 recites a pen input/display device including sequence input means enabling inputs of a series of pen pressure levels as sorted by frequency of use, and wherein a pen pressure information infrared transmission control means controls an infrared transmission means to transmit an infrared signal with pulse widths which grow longer in descending sequence of frequency of use of individual pen pressure levels as sorted through the sequence input means. The Office Action indicates that this aspect of the invention is disclosed in Russell at column 6, lines 40-45. However, it is respectfully submitted that this portion of Russell discusses dynamically varying the pulse width of Russell's ultrasonic signal, not the infrared

signal. At least the above limitations of claim 3 are not shown or suggested by the art of record, and claim 3 is submitted to be allowable over the art of record for at least this reason.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Russell. By the above amendment, claim 9 has been revised to recite a pen input device that includes, inter alia, a controller for controlling an infrared transmitter to produce a first signal when a first pressure level is detected and a second signal when a second pressure level is detected, the controller having a sequence input mode enabling inputs of a series of pen pressure levels in an order of frequency of use. Russell in no manner suggests a pen input device having a controller with a sequence input mode as now claimed, and amended claim 9 is submitted to be allowable over Russell for at least this reason.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Russell. Claim 10 as amended recites an input pen and a display device, wherein an infrared transmitter in the input pen sends a signal that varies with the sensed contact pressure between the input pen and the display device in a manner determined by a sequence input of a user. Russell in no manner suggests varying a signal in a manner determined by a sequence input of a user as now claimed, and claim 10 is submitted to be allowable over the art of record.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Russell. Claim 11 as amended recites a method of transmitting a signal from an input pen to a display device that includes steps of varying an infrared signal in response to a user input related to a frequency of use of pressure levels and in response to changes in pen pressure against the display. Such a method is not shown or suggested by the art of record, and claim 11 as amended is submitted to be allowable.

Claims 12-15 depend from claim 11 and are submitted to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 11.

Claims 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Russell in view of Stefik. Claims 6 and 8 depend from claim 1. Stefik does not address the shortcomings of Russell discussed above in connection with claim 1. Claims 6 and 8 are therefore submitted to be allowable over Russell and Stefik for at least the reasons provided above in connection with claim 1.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Russell in view of Stefik. Claim 15 depends from claim 11. Stefik does not address the shortcomings of Russell discussed above in connection with claim 9. Claim 15 is therefore submitted to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 9.

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Russell in view of DeBuisser. Claim 13 depends from claim 11. DeBuisser does not address the shortcomings of Russell discussed above in connection with claim 11. Claim 13 is therefore submitted to be allowable over the art of record for at least the same reasons as claim 11.

CONCLUSION

Each issue raised in the Office Action dated February 14, 2007, has been addressed, and it is believed that claims 1-15 are now in condition for allowance. Wherefore, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-15 is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the examiner is respectfully requested to contact Scott Wakeman (Reg. No. 37,750) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By  #37,750

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